

STEVEN G. KALAR
Federal Public Defender
GRAHAM ARCHER
Assistant Federal Public Defender
55 South Market Street, Suite 820
San Jose, CA 95113
Telephone: (408) 291-7753
Graham_Archer@fd.org

Counsel for Defendant DOUGLAS STORMS YORK

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	No. CR 15-00226 BLF
)	
Plaintiff,)	JOINT PROPOSED VOIR DIRE
)	QUESTIONS
)	
vs.)	
)	
)	Pretrial Conference: July 16, 2015
)	Time: 2:00 p.m.
DOUGLAS STORMS YORK,)	
)	
Defendant.)	Trial Date: July 20, 2015
)	Honorable Beth Labson Freeman

Defendant Douglas Storms York, by and through Assistant Federal Public Defender Graham Archer, and the United States, by and through Special Assistant United States Attorney Brianna Penna, respectfully request that the following questions be posed by the Court to the venire, either in a questionnaire or in open court:

1. Have you ever served on a jury? Was the case civil or criminal? Were you able to reach a verdict?

2. What clubs or organizations do you belong to? Do you belong to any organizations concerned with criminal law or the criminal justice system?

1 3. Have you ever applied for a job or worked for a law enforcement agency or in the
2 military or security field? Have any of your close friends or relatives ever applied for a job or
3 worked for a law enforcement agency or in the military or security field?

4 4. Have you ever applied for a job or worked in the legal field? Do you have any
5 legal training? Have any of your close friends or relatives ever applied for a job or worked in the
6 legal field?

7 5. There may be one or more law enforcement officers or agents who will testify in
8 this case. Will the fact that a person is a law enforcement officer make you trust him or her more
9 than any other witness? Would you tend to give any greater weight or credibility, no matter how
10 slight, to the testimony of a law enforcement officer or government witness because they are
11 employees of, or are testifying on behalf of, the government?

12 6. Have you, a member of your family, or a friend been a victim of a crime? If so,
13 what effect if any would that fact have on your ability to be fair and impartial in deciding whether
14 Mr. York is guilty or not guilty of the charges in this case?

15 7. Have you, a member of your family, or a friend been involved in a family law
16 proceeding involving divorce or child custody? A bad break-up of a relationship with a
17 significant other? A victim of stalking? If so, what effect if any would that fact have on your
18 ability to be fair and impartial in deciding whether Mr. York is guilty or not guilty of the charges
19 in this case?

20 8. Mr. York is charged with false impersonation of an employee of the United States.
21 If you were called upon to return a verdict right now, would you return a verdict of guilty?

22 9. What are your opinions on the United States' laws on false impersonation of a
23 government employee? Do you think these law should be tougher? Do you believe you can put
24 that opinion aside and judge Mr. York solely on the basis of the evidence presented at trial?

25 10. Do you think that Mr. York must have done something wrong or he would not be
26 here today?

1 11. Mr. York is presumed to be innocent unless and until he is proven guilty beyond a
2 reasonable doubt. Do you have any trouble giving him the benefit of this presumption of
3 innocence without any mental reservations whatsoever?

4 12. Mr. York has pled not guilty to the charge against him. What are your thoughts
5 about whether or not a defendant should testify?

6 13. If after hearing all the evidence in this case, you thought that Mr. York was
7 probably guilty, but you were not convinced beyond a reasonable doubt, would you have trouble
8 returning a verdict of not guilty?

9 14. Will you be concerned about later criticism should you return a verdict of not guilty?

10 15. Is there anything about the nature of the charge or your personal experience which
11 you have not disclosed that makes you believe that you could not be fair and impartial in
12 reaching a verdict in this case?

13
14 Respectfully submitted,

15 Dated: July 9, 2015

16 /s/ Graham Archer

17 G R A H A M A R C H E R
18 Assistant Federal Public Defender

19 Dated: July 9, 2015

20 /s/ Brianna Penna

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22 BRIANNA PENNA
23 Special Assistant United States Attorney
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